

Remark

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application as amended.

Claim 11 has been amended. No claims have been cancelled. Therefore, claims 1-25 are present for examination.

35 U.S.C. §101 Rejection

Claims 11-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter. Claim 11 has been amended.

35 U.S.C. §103 Rejection

Narayanaswami

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-25 under 35 U.S.C. §103 (a) as being unpatentable over Narayanaswami et al., U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0011684("Narayanaswami"). Narayanaswami is directed to a "watermarking" system to verify authenticity of still digital photographic images. The "watermark" contains information about how, where, and when each image was taken.

There are significant differences between Narayanaswami and the present invention, some of which have already been identified by the Examiner. These include:

- a) Each image carries only data about that image and is not affected by any other images.
- b) Each image also has a separate redundant file against which the watermark can be checked. (0051:ll. 5-21)
- c) Neither the watermark, nor the redundant file are ever changed.

d) The check against the watermark is between two identical sets of information that are supposed to describe the same frame or image, not successive images.

e) The result of the check appears to be a "fraudulent" or "not fraudulent" result. There is no suggestion to store the differences, nor is there any reason to.

Referring now to Claim 1, it refers to a sequence of video frames with video frame data for each video frame. A topic of Claim 1 is the current video frame. Claim 1 recites, *inter alia*:

"comparing the current state of auxiliary information with auxiliary information regarding a current video frame..." Narayanaswami compares image information in a watermark to image information about the same image in a redundant file.

"determine differential information..." Narayanaswami determines whether there is a difference but there is no description of any "differential" information that might come out of the process. The result would appear to be no more than a match/no match result. Match suggests "authenticity verified" and no match suggest "fraudulent image." (see, for example, para. 51, line 25)

"annotating the differential information..." Narayanaswami does not store the results of the comparison nor would there be any reason to. The purpose in Narayanaswami is completely different. Narayanaswami only stores the image and the redundant copy of the watermark.

"as an annotation to the video frame data for the current video frame"

Narayanaswami does not have any annotations to its images. The first copy of the data is stored as a watermark, embedded in the image. The redundant copy is stored but there is

no mention of where it is stored (see para. 0051, compare to para. 0044 relating to the watermark).

In order to overcome some of these shortcomings in Narayanaswami, the Examiner states that “Official Notice is taken that the differential information can be annotated to the video frame data.” The Examiner then concludes that it would be obvious to do so.

As mentioned above, the differences in Narayanaswami and in paragraph 51 to which the Examiner refers are not differences between frames, they are differences between an external file and a watermark. This could perhaps be annotated to a frame, but there would be no reason to do so. The verification process that is the purpose in Narayanaswami requires that there be two separate data sets to compare. Rather than annotate the difference, it would make more sense to annotate a certificate of positive or negative verification. However, this is also not in the reference. The same end could be achieved by just removing the watermark or erasing the image.

Even if Narayanaswami taught the determination of “differential information” as recited in the claims (which it does not), it would still not be obvious to store the differential information as the examiner suggests. Fundamentally, this is because Narayanaswami is about still images. Storing the differential information would serve no useful purpose for Narayanaswami. If only the differential information were stored, it would not be possible to determine the camera's position without reference to another image. As a result, the two images would need to be kept together with some reference to each other. Since the only application in Narayanaswami is still images, the other image may not be readily available. Accordingly, there is no motivation to store the change in camera position and Narayanaswami certainly includes no suggestion to do so.

All of the rejections are based on the rejection of Claim 1 as obvious and accordingly, on the grounds provided above, Applicants respectfully submit that all of these rejections are traversed.

Conclusion

Applicant respectfully submits that the rejections have been overcome by the amendment and remark, and that the claims as amended are now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the rejections be withdrawn and the claims as amended be allowed.

Invitation for a Telephone Interview

The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at (303) 740-1980 if there remains any issue with allowance of the case.

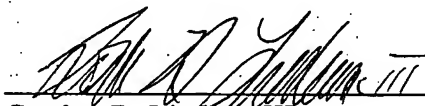
Request for an Extension of Time

Applicant respectfully petitions for an extension of time to respond to the outstanding Office Action pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) should one be necessary. Please charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 to cover the necessary fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a) for such an extension.

Please charge any shortage to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,
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